



# CATHOLIC LEAGUE

*For Religious  
and  
Civil Rights*

April 11, 2023

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Hon. Christopher Wray  
Director  
FBI  
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington D.C. 20535

Dear Director Wray:

As president of the nation's largest Catholic civil rights organization, I am asking you to make public those documents that are related to the FBI's outreach program to "mainline Catholic parishes" and "local diocesan leadership." They were targeted because of alleged "radicalization" within the Catholic Church.

This is taking the FBI into new, and disturbing territory. We know from previous disclosures that the FBI was probing "Radical-Traditionalist Catholics" (RTCs). To this day, we have not seen any evidence that they are a threat to anyone. Now the FBI has upped the ante, going after "mainline" Catholics and dioceses.

On February 9, I made public my concerns about the FBI's interest in RTCs. "What's next?" Will it be a war on "Catholics who are orthodox?"

The First Amendment provides for a healthy measure of autonomy between church and state, so when the state encroaches on religious bodies, it had better have unambiguous and very serious reasons for doing so. I would like to know what they are in this instance.

Sincerely,

  
William Donohue, Ph.D.

cc: Rep. Jim Jordan, Chairman, House Judiciary Committee

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